

Minutes of the 1st Meeting in 2024
of the District Facilities and Works Committee
of Tai Po District Council

Date: 9 January 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:33 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Tai Po District Council (“TPDC”)

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Withdrawal</u>
<u>Chairman</u>		
Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Vice-chairman</u>		
Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Members</u>		
Mr. YU Chi-wing, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LEE Man-kit	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Yiu-ban, BBS, MH, JP	9:35 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WU Cheuk-him	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Siu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Ching-hung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Tsz-kin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. CHAN Kin-kwan	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Pok-chi, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MAK Shing-ho, Gary	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WAN Koon-kau	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WONG Wai-tung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. LOK Siu-luen	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LO Hiu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Secretary</u>		
Miss LO Tin-wai, Tiffany	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) / Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)		

In Attendance

Miss YU Wing-lam, Phoebe	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / HAD
Mr. CHU Ka-chun, Gordon	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD")
Mr. YAU Wan-po, Wallace	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Tai Po / LCSD
Ms. WONG Chit-hei, Heidi	Executive Officer (Planning) 23 / LCSD
Miss LEE Mei-yee, May	Senior Librarian (Tai Po) / LCSD
Mr. TSUI Chun-sing	Administrative Assistant / Lands / District Lands Office, Tai Po / Lands Department ("LandsD")
Ms. CHAN Yi-sa, Yisa	Architect (Works) 1 / HAD
Mr. WONG Wilson	Architect (Works) 10 / HAD
Ms. SING Hoi-shan, Wendy	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. SO Wing-kai	Senior Inspector of Works / TPDO / HAD
Mr. LAU Chun-ming	Inspector of Works (3) / TPDO / HAD
Miss YIP Lisa	Liaison Officer (7) / TPDO / HAD

Opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed participants to this meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee ("DFWC").

2. The Chairman welcomed the following officers who would attend the DFWC meetings as representatives of core departments (i.e. departments with regular attendance):

- (i) Miss YU Wing-lam, Phoebe / Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / TPDO;
- (ii) Ms. SING Hoi-shan, Wendy / Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / TPDO;
- (iii) Mr. SO Wing-kai / Senior Inspector of Works / TPDO;
- (iv) Mr. LAU Chun-ming / Inspector of Works (3) / TPDO;
- (v) Miss YIP Lisa / Liaison Officer (7) / TPDO;
- (vi) Ms. CHAN Yi-sa, Yisa / Architect (Works) 1 / HAD;
- (vii) Mr. WONG Wilson / Architect (Works) 10 / HAD;
- (viii) Mr. CHU Ka-chun, Gordon / District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / LCSD;
- (ix) Mr. YAU Wan-po, Wallace / Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Tai Po / LCSD;
- (x) Ms. WONG Mei-lin, Rita / Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 23 / LCSD;

- (xi) Ms. WONG Chit-hei, Heidi / Executive Officer (Planning) 23 / LCSD;
- (xii) Miss LEE Mei-yee, May / Senior Librarian (Tai Po) / LCSD; and
- (xiii) Mr. TSUI Chun-sing / Administrative Assistant / Lands / District Lands Office, Tai Po.

I. Government Departments and Term Consultants — Position of the District Minor Works Funds and progress report on the approved District Minor Works Projects
(TPDC Paper No. DFW 1/2024)

3. The Chairman said that as some District Council (“DC”) Members of the current term were the original proponents of District Minor Works (“DMW”) projects, they should automatically become the follow-up Members of the projects concerned. In addition, taking into account the fact there were quite a number of new DC Members in the current term, projects would not be allocated to Members for follow-up for the time being. She suggested that after Members had set up their district ward offices and confirmed the sub-districts to be served, projects with work sites in their respective sub-districts would be allocated to them for follow-up.

4. The Chairman requested that Members note the position of DMW Funds and the progress report on the approved DMW projects. She reported that the DFWC currently had a total approved project estimates of \$51.83 million, of which around \$19.73 million was for the 2023/24 financial year and approximately \$32.10 million for 2024/25 and thereafter.

(A) Projects reported by the HAD (Works Section) on behalf of the term consultants Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited and WCWP International Limited as the works agent

(Items (1) to (17) in Annex II to TPDC Paper No. DFW 1/2024)

5. The representative of HAD said that progress of Project Items (1) to (17) had already been enumerated in the summary of works progress for Members’ reference. He added that for Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of a sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po”, the Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) had relocated the buried watermains concerned and the HAD (Works Section) and LCSD were currently conducting inspection and acceptance.

6. Members’ comments were as follows:

- (i) At present, some DMW projects had not been followed up by DC Members of the current term. They hoped that the projects did not necessarily have to be linked with the locations of their ward offices.

- (ii) They hoped to be responsible for following up on the projects of the villages concerned so as to facilitate communication with the village representatives and villagers on the projects.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (10) “TP-DMW296 Provision of a sitting-out area at Cheung Muk Tau Tsuen”, Members agreed that the project should commence as soon as possible, but it had to tie in with the project to be commenced by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”) for the public housing programme nearby. They hoped that the CEDD would be invited to attend the next DFWC meeting to explain the progress of the project.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding Project Item (10) “TP-DMW296 Provision of a sitting-out area at Cheung Muk Tau Tsuen”, the CEDD pointed out that the works contract had commenced in September 2023 and was expected for completion in 2027.)

7. The Chairman said that the new project would be finalised and implemented by the TPDO. If Members wished to become the follow-up Member of the project, further discussion on the relevant arrangements were required.

8. Members’ comments were as follows:

- (i) There was no delineation of any constituencies for District Committees constituency members and appointed members. It was hoped that the TPDO and relevant departments would inform all Members before conducting inspections of projects in future, and that Members would be able to sign up for attending the inspections through the Secretariat.
- (ii) They suggested that District Council geographical constituency members should continue to follow up on the projects in their respective constituencies.
- (iii) They suggested that sun and rain blocking materials should be adopted for rain shelters and that the design of drainage pipes should be improved.
- (iv) They expressed concerns about the occupational safety and health of construction site workers, and hoped that the responsible departments would conduct more inspections to safeguard the safety of workers.
- (v) As the implementation of some proposed projects was depended on the financial position, Members had reservations about whether the projects concerned could be completed by the end of the current term of DC.
- (vi) Regarding Project Item (4) “TP-DMW242 Provision of a sitting-out area at San Uk Tsai, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po”, a Member said that the village representative concerned had expressed his wish for the provision of a new harbour or pavilion after the demolition of the original pavilion.

- (vii) Regarding Project Item (7) “TP-DMW266 Provision of a rain shelter near Wan Tau Tong Estate at Fung Wan Road, Tai Po”, a Member reported that some residents had said that the 1.5-metre wide cover was too narrow and the height of the shelter was too high, which made them worried that the rain shelter could not effectively block the sun and rain for the public. As such, it was hoped that the dimensions of the rain shelter would be reviewed.
- (viii) Regarding Project Item (8) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”, they hoped to discuss and follow up on the plan with the TPDO.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding Project Item (8) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”, the TPDO provided Mr. CHAN Cho-leung with a revised feasibility study report of the project concerned on 11 January 2024 for his reference.)

9. The Chairman’s comments were as follows:

- (i) She thanked Members for their views on all approved DMW projects, and Members could give their views without having to be the proponents of projects. As for whether all Members would be invited to inspect all projects in future, it would have to be left to the specific implementation arrangements in future.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (7) “TP-DMW266 Provision of a rain shelter near Wan Tau Tong Estate at Fung Wan Road, Tai Po”, inspection and acceptance of the project had been completed and the relevant matters were followed up by the Tai Po South Area Committee (“AC”) at the same time.

10. The representative of HAD responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (7) “TP-DMW266 Provision of a rain shelter near Wan Tau Tong Estate at Fung Wan Road, Tai Po”, the design of the rain shelter, which was 450 millimetres higher than that of the bus stop, was in accordance with the standard of The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (“KMB”). The design of the rainwater pipes, which was to drain water to the ground, was in line with the usual practice of the department and it could be further explained and explored with Members in detail in future.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (10) “TP-DMW296 Provision of a sitting-out area at Cheung Muk Tau Tsuen”, the CEDD was carrying out road development works in the vicinity. He agreed that it would be more appropriate to commence the project in succession subject to the progress of the works concerned.

11. The representative of HAD said that for Project Item (4) “TP-DMW242 Provision of a sitting-

out area at San Uk Tsai, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po”, a site visit could be arranged for Members, representatives of villagers and the relevant departments at a later time to discuss whether the original Chinese pavilion should be retained, and the timetable and details of the project would be explained.

12. The representative of TPDO said that for Project Item (7) “TP-DMW266 Provision of a rain shelter near Wan Tau Tong Estate at Fung Wan Road, Tai Po”, upon completion of the project by the HAD (Works Section) and term consultant, the TPDO (Works Section) would be responsible for the repair and maintenance of the rain shelter. If Members noticed any damage to the rain shelter or blockage of the flow of water in future, they could inform the TPDO for follow-up action.

13. DFWC noted the above report.

(B) DMW projects reported by TPDO

(Items (18) to (33) in Annex II to TPDC Paper No. DFM 1/2024)

14. The representative of TPDO reported the progress of projects as follows:

- (i) Project Item (19) “TP-DMW184 Provision of rain shelters at Ma Po Mei, Chai Kek and San Tong, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po”: The project was completed on 21 December 2023. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, the original principal proponent, met with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 and noted the progress of the above project, to which he expressed his satisfaction. The entire project had already been completed and would therefore be deleted from the summary of works progress.
- (ii) Project Item (20) “TP-DMW265 Construction of shelters at paved area adjacent to Lam Tsuen Wishing Square, Ng Tung Chai and Tai Om Tsuen, Tai Po”: Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, the original principal proponent, met with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 and noted that the above project had been completed, to which he expressed his satisfaction. The entire project had already been completed and would therefore be deleted from the summary of works progress.
- (iii) Project Item (21) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”: Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, the follow-up Member, met with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 and noted the progress of the above project, to which he expressed his satisfaction. The project was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2024.
- (iv) Project Item (22) “TP-DMW324 Improvement to access road at A Shan, Tai Po”: The project was completed on 26 October 2023. The entire project had already been completed and would therefore be deleted from the summary of works progress.
- (v) Project Item (25) “Improvement of the road junctions of Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen and

Yung Shue O, Sai Sha Road”: Regarding the junction at Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen, Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, the original principal proponent, said at the meeting with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 that the Highways Department (“HyD”) had completed the reinstatement of road surface at the road junction concerned. Regarding the improvement to the junction at Yung Shue O Tsuen, Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, the original principal proponent, said at the meeting with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 that after communicating with the Transport Department (“TD”) and HyD, the relevant departments had confirmed that the project site fell within the ambit of WSD. As such, he would follow up with the WSD in due course.

- (vi) Project Item (26) “TP-DMW387 Improvement of the drainage system and landscaping works right in front of Lam Tsuen Fong Ma Po Tin Hau Temple”: Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, the follow-up Member, and Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, the original other proponent, met with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 and noted the progress of the above project. Upon completion of the layout plan, the Works Section would consult Mr. LAM Yick-kuen and the parties concerned.
- (vii) Project Item (31) “Provision of a sitting-out area at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po”: Messrs. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, and LI Yiu-ban, the original principal proponents, met with the TPDO on 15 December 2023 and noted the progress of the above project. They indicated that as the relevant information on the exact project site had yet to be available, they hoped that the Works Section would arrange a site visit for them at a later time.
- (viii) The progress of Project Items (18), (23) to (24), (27) to (30) and (32) to (33) had already been enumerated in the summary of works progress for Members’ reference.

15. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) They asked whether the TPDO would need the assistance of relevant Members to obtain the written consent of relevant stakeholders in carrying out the works.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (21) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”, given the hillside topography near Yuk Sau Fung was rather steep, they learnt that opposing views on carrying out the restoration works at the said location had been received earlier. They asked whether the TPDO (Works Section) would carry out restoration works to the relevant section of trail separately.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (24) “TP-DMW386 Resurfacing of village roads and drainage channel at Lai Pek Shan San Tsuen”, Project Item (27) “TP-DMW388 Reconstruction of the access road leading to Tseng Tau Tsuen” and Project Item (28) “Resurfacing of village roads and drainage channel at Po Sam Pai Village”, there had been no significant progress of the projects concerned since 2019 and they

asked about their commencement dates.

- (iv) Regarding Project Item (25) “Improvement of the road junctions of Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen and Yung Shue O, Sai Sha Road”, the HyD had assisted in the reinstatement of ground works at part of the junction at Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen. At present, there was no road junction formally designed by the TD for vehicular access. However, with the rapid increase in population and number of village houses in the village in recent years, there were frequent entry and exit of vehicles at the location in question. They suggested that the TD be invited to attend the next DFWC meeting to give a reply on whether arrangements could be made to formally reconstruct the entrance/exit of the village. As for the junction at Yung Shue O Tsuen, they hoped that the WSD could be invited to attend the meeting to give a reply on whether the width of the junction concerned could be improved.
- (v) Regarding Project Item (26) “TP-DMW387 Improvement of the drainage system and landscaping works right in front of Lam Tsuen Fong Ma Po Tin Hau Temple” and Project Item (27) “TP-DMW388 Reconstruction of the access road leading to Tseng Tau Tsuen”, they hoped that the TPDO (Works Section) would provide the relevant plans so as to learn about the details and scope of the projects.
- (vi) There was no project number for Project Item (28) “Resurfacing of village roads and drainage channel at Po Sam Pai Village”, Project Item (29) “Improvement of access roads and drainage facilities at Wai Ha Village, Tai Po” and Project Item (30) “Construction of drainage channel and channel cover at San Tau Kok Tsuen”, and they asked about the arrangements of the projects.
- (vii) Regarding Project Item (30) “Construction of drainage channel and channel cover at San Tau Kok Tsuen”, they asked about the details of the project and the views of the relevant departments.

16. The representative of TPDO responded as follows:

- (i) Projects that had not been assigned with project numbers were still at the preliminary design stage. This was mostly due to the fact that the villages involved were larger in size and therefore a longer time was required.
- (ii) The TPDO (Works Section) was currently obtaining written consent from the relevant stakeholders for some of the projects and had not encountered any difficulties for the time being.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (21) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”, a number of on-site inspections had been conducted earlier. It had been decided that the most seriously damaged section would be repaired first before looking into the restoration of other sections.
- (iv) Regarding Project Item (24) “TP-DMW386 Resurfacing of village roads and

drainage channel at Lai Pek Shan San Tsuen”, Project Item (27) “TP-DMW388 Reconstruction of the access road leading to Tseng Tau Tsuen” and Project Item (28) “Resurfacing of village roads and drainage channel at Po Sam Pai Village”, as the sites were larger in size and a number of vehicular and village roads were involved, more time would be required for the design of the relevant plans.

- (v) Regarding Project Item (26) “TP-DMW387 Improvement of the drainage system and landscaping works right in front of Lam Tsuen Fong Ma Po Tin Hau Temple” and Project Item (27) “TP-DMW388 Reconstruction of the access road leading to Tseng Tau Tsuen”, upon completion of the preliminary design, the TPDO (Works Section) would provide the plans to Members concerned for reference.

17. The representative of TPDO said that the summary of works progress was listed with an estimated schedule of works and the progress of some of the projects would be adjusted due to different reasons. In general, once the construction of a project had commenced at site, there would not be any suspension of work or delay in progress due to the financial position. As for projects that had not commenced construction at sites, the TPDO would continue to examine the project estimates and cash flow situation, take forward the projects in close collaboration with the HAD (Works Section) and LCSD in the light of the relevant circumstances, and discuss the progress of the projects with the follow-up Members concerned in a timely manner.

18. DFWC noted the above report.

(C) DMW projects followed up by the Tai Po District Leisure Services Office of LCSD
(Items (34) to (38) in Annex II to TPDC Paper No. DFM 1/2024)

19. The representative of LCSD reported the progress of projects as follows:

- (i) Project Item (34) “TP-DMW319 Improvement Works at Kwong Fuk Bridge Garden”: The LCSD had commenced the comprehensive refurbishment works at the garden earlier, including replacement of the pavilion, benches and railings. The project was expected to be completed in January 2024. Upon completion of the project, the LCSD would conduct an on-site inspection with Mr. LAM Yick-kuen to discuss greening enhancement works
- (ii) Project Item (35) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”: The LCSD had installed some additional elderly fitness equipment and children play facilities earlier, and would complete the installation of a set of climbing facilities for use by children in January 2024.
- (iii) Project Item (36) “TP-DMW321 Provision of fitness equipment at Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area”: As there were underground facilities at the project site, an on-site

inspection would be conducted with the Chairman of DFWC and works department at a later time to identify an alternative suitable site for the provision of additional fitness equipment for public use.

- (iv) Project Item (37) “Improvement Works for Kau Lung Hang Playground”: The LCSD had applied to the Technical Section for the replacement of facilities.
- (v) Project Item (38) “Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park”: The LCSD and works department were consulting the relevant national sports associations (“NSAs”) and studying the design of the project.

20. The Chairman said that Hong Lok Yuen and Tai Po Waterfront Park fell within the constituency area of Tai Po North, and asked the department to amend the information of Project Item (38) at Annex II after the meeting.

21. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (34) “TP-DMW319 Improvement Works at Kwong Fuk Bridge Garden”, there was a serious problem of bird droppings in the area and they asked whether the situation could be improved upon refurbishment of the relevant facilities.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (35) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”, they hoped that the LCSD would contact the relevant Members for an on-site inspection upon completion of the installation of climbing facilities.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (37) “Improvement Works for Kau Lung Hang Playground”, the project was proposed in 2021 and they asked about the construction schedule of the project.
- (iv) They expressed support for Project Item (38) “Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park”. As complaints had been received about young people in the district engaging in scootering activities at Tai Po Central Sitting-out Area, they hoped that the LCSD could complete the project as soon as possible so as to resolve the conflict between users of scooters and residents.
- (v) They asked whether Project Item (38) “Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park” would include the provision of additional venues for extreme cycling.
- (vi) Earlier on, there was a case of fire in domestic premises caused by charging the battery of electric scooter in the district. As it was difficult for users of electric scooters to charge their scooters outside their homes in general, they hoped that the LCSD would provide additional charging facilities for electric scooters at its venues, so as to reduce the risk of fires caused by residents charging at home.

22. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (35) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”, the LCSD had ordered a set of climbing facilities and would start assembling them in mid-January 2024. Members would be invited for an on-site inspection upon completion of the project.
- (vi) Regarding Project Item (37) “Improvement Works for Kau Lung Hang Playground”, it was originally proposed to expand the area of the playground, but it was found after the inspection that the playground was in the vicinity of residential buildings and major pedestrian walkways, thus making it difficult to expand the area of the playground. The LCSD would, having regard to the usage of the venue, apply to the Technical Section for the replacement of facilities for public use.
- (vii) Regarding Project Item (38) “Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park”, the LCSD was currently discussing with the NSAs the scope of works and the extreme activities that were suitable to be carried out. The department was initially studying the provision of an additional skateboarding rink, while other items would be subject to further consultation with the NSAs and the venue conditions.
- (viii) For items mentioned by Members such as electric scooters, they were not extreme sports equipment and therefore did not fall within the scope of services provided by the above facilities.

23. DFWC noted the above report.

(D) DMW projects followed up by the Cultural Services Branch of LCSD
(Items (39) to (41) in Annex II to TPDC Paper No. DFM 1/2024)

24. The representative of LCSD reported that the progress of Project Item (39) “To set up a 24-hour self-service library station (“SSL Station”) at Yuen Shin Park, Tai Po”, Project Item (40) “To set up a 24-hour SSL Station at Tai Po Old Market” and Project Item (41) “To set up a 24-hour SSL Station at the concourse of MTR Tai Wo Station” had already been enumerated in the summary of works progress for Members’ reference. To enhance the library services, the LCSD was now developing a Smart Library System (“SLS”). Equipment employing the new-generation radio frequency identification technology (including book dispensers, book drops and multi-functional kiosks) would replace the existing ones and come into operation in phases in 2024. The LCSD had to tie in with the development progress of the new library system and additional resources were required before further rolling out the service of SSL Stations. The department would continue to review and enhance the existing service of SSL Stations at this stage.

25. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (39) “To set up a 24-hour SSL Station at Yuen Shin Park, Tai Po”, they opined that the pedestrian flow at the location concerned was relatively low. They suggested that the library station be set up at Fu Shin Estate or Fu Shin Sports Centre, where the pedestrian flow was relatively high, so as to facilitate the use of library station by residents in the vicinity.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (40) “To set up a 24-hour SSL Station at Tai Po Old Market” and Project Item (41) “To set up a 24-hour SSL Station at the concourse of MTR Tai Wo Station”, they asked about the progress of these projects.
- (iii) They asked whether the LCSD would provide additional 24-hour SSL Stations at different locations in Tai Po District and take forward the projects collectively so as to expedite the progress of the projects.

26. The representative of LCSD said that in considering the provision of SSL Stations, the department would need to consider locations where they could be made available for use round-the-clock, and where they would be located in areas with heavier pedestrian flow and farther away from existing library facilities. The locations of the above projects were proposed by the then DC Members. At present, before rolling out services of SSL Stations, the department had to tie in with the development and progress of the SLS and they could be rolled out only if additional resources were available. As the provision of SSL Stations would involve additional manpower and resources (for example, operating expenses and the need to connect book dispensers to the new library system), the department would take them into consideration when reviewing the relevant plans, in particular the need to tie in with the overall development of library services in the territory. It would only consider rolling out the services further if additional resources were available.

27. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Given the limited resources, they suggested that the DFWC should propose amendments to the locations of the SSL Stations concerned so as to benefit more residents.
- (ii) Under a trial scheme for the provision of SSL Stations, the SSL Station in Tai Wai had commenced service in 2020. Members asked whether the LCSD could provide the utilisation rate and specific data of SSL Stations under the trial scheme for Members’ reference, which was believed to be conducive to taking forward the relevant SSL Stations project in Tai Po.

28. The representative of LCSD said that in mid-2023, the SSL Station in Tai Wai recorded a monthly average of about 7 200 items processed, including records of borrowing, return and pickup of reserved books. The existing SSL Station was designed as a multi-functional station that could perform operations such as borrowing, return and pickup of reserved books, and each reader could

only perform one operation at a time. The new book dispensers would split the relevant operations in future and commence service in phases from 2024 onwards. The department would continue to closely monitor the demand for library services by local residents and provide more quality library services for public use when resources permitted.

29. DFWC noted the above report.

(E) DMW projects followed up by the Planning Section of LCSD
(Item (42) in Annex II to TPDC Paper No. DFM 1/2024)

30. The representative of LCSD reported in connection with Project Item (42) “TP-DMW374 Provision of Inclusive Playground near Tai Po Swimming Pool” that the LCSD was currently processing funding applications regarding preliminary stage works cost, and that the vetting of the funding applications concerned depended on the financial position of the year. Members would be notified of any updates in due course.

31. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) There was a relatively large-scale inclusive playground in Sham Shui Po District and many parents would bring their children to play there. It was suggested that the LCSD could make reference to the design of the playground concerned so as to upgrade the playground project in Tai Po District.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (17) “TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Blocks 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po”, they asked about the commencement and completion dates of the project concerned.

32. The representative of HAD added that for Project Item (17) “TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Blocks 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po”, the progress and details of the project could be explained to the relevant Members after the meeting.

33. DFWC noted the above report.

II. Any other business

34. The Chairman said that she hoped that DC Members of the current term could listen to and analyse the views of various stakeholders on DMW projects. She invited the TPDO to respond to the wishes of following up on various DMW projects as expressed by Members concerned.

35. The representative of TPDO responded as follows:

- (i) “The DMW programme” aimed at improving local facilities, living environment and hygienic conditions in the territory. Funding would be allocated to each district to implement the relevant programme and the HAD and LCSD were the lead departments. The HAD was responsible for minor works related to improvement to living environment and hygienic conditions of the district; and the LCSD was responsible for minor works related to leisure, cultural, sports, soft landscaping and recreation type of facilities.
- (ii) Typical works projects funded included rain shelters, benches, walkway cover, sitting-out areas, planting and horticultural maintenance for planters, beautification works, and improvement works in parks / community halls (“CHs”) etc.
- (iii) At present, the HAD, District Offices (“DOs”) and LCSD would be responsible for proposing worthwhile DMW projects having regard to the community’s views.
- (iv) DOs would proactively collect views from the community through different channels such as consultation with local organisations, ACs and DC Members, with a view to identifying minor works projects for the benefit of the local community. Projects under “the DMW programme” would only be followed up at DFWC, while other projects outside the programme would be followed up by ACs.
- (v) The allocation of DMW projects to be followed up by DC Members of the current term was subject to discussion among various parties, including the Chairman of DFWC, TPDO and HAD, and the arrangements would be finalised thereafter.
- (vi) The relevant departments would contact the Chairman and Vice-chairman of DFWC for further follow-up actions on some of the projects that required urgent inspection and acceptance or follow-up actions.

36. The Chairman said that for Members who wished to follow up on the relevant projects or conduct on-site inspections, they could approach the relevant departments individually. As for some projects that did not have proponents or follow-up Members, she would assist in following up on them with the Vice-chairman and contact the relevant stakeholders.

37. Members’ comments were as follows:

- (i) A resident had reflected that there was lack of maintenance with the basketball court in Tai Po Community Centre and the basketball hoops were broken. They hoped that the TPDO would repair the facilities as soon as possible.
- (ii) The screens at Tung Cheong Street CH were frequently out of service.
- (iii) A resident had reflected that facilities at Tai Yuen CH and Fu Heng Neighbourhood Community Centre were in need of repair, and they hoped that the TPDO would follow up on them.

- (iv) Some organisations did not know how to use the screens at Tung Cheong Street CH and hoped that the TPDO would provide operational guidelines for the reference of organisations.
- (v) Regarding the contact information of government departments providing “One-stop Service”, the contact number and relevant information of the Works Section responsible for projects in Tai Po North were not available for the time being.

38. The representative of TPDO said that projects under the TPDO would be followed up by the TPDO (Works Section), which would later exchange contact details with Members concerned who could contact the Section direct by then. As regards the views on the maintenance of CH facilities, he would reflect them to the relevant government departments and sections and follow up on them.

39. The representative of TPDO said that Members could contact Mr. SO Wing-kai, Senior Inspector of Works, and reflect their views to the TPDO (Works Section) if they had any comments on DMW projects led by TPDO. Those who had views on the environment and facilities in Tai Po District could contact Mr. LUI Kan-man, Raymond, and Ms. WONG Sze-man, Queenie, Senior Liaison Officers, who were responsible for the Tai Po South and Tai Po North Constituencies respectively. Upon receipt of such views, they would refer them to the relevant departments or sections for follow-up action.

40. The Chairman said that community centres and CHs were closely related to Tai Po District and quite a number of Members also wished to express their views in this regard. She suggested that a report be made at the next DFWC meeting on the follow-up of the relevant CH projects.

41. The representative of TPDO cited as an example that Project Item (13) “TP-DMW337 Construction of rain shelters at Tai Po Tau and Tai Wo (Serenity Villa, Serenity Park II and Tai Po Government offices)” was being followed up by the HAD, TPDO (Works Section) and term consultant, and the project site was in Tai Po North Constituency. If necessary, Members of Tai Po North geographical constituency as well as those who had set up their ward offices nearby would be invited for an on-site inspection at a later time.

42. The Chairman said that once Members had finalised the locations of their district ward offices, she would reconsider inviting Members to follow up on DMW projects at their respective locations, and Members could also give their views on different projects at the meetings.

43. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) If there was still a principal project proponent, he or she could stay on; if the post of principal proponent was vacant, the Chairman and Vice-chairman of DFWC could follow up the project on his or her behalf temporarily. If an on-site inspection was to be arranged, it was suggested that the relevant departments might first make an

appointment with the principal proponent or the principal follow-up Member, who would then announce the details of the on-site inspection in the DFMC messaging group for interested Members to attend together.

- (ii) They agreed that there was a need to respond to the follow-up on CH facilities at the meetings, and asked whether the TPDO would arrange for the relevant sections to respond or attend the meetings.

44. The representative of TPDO said that she would relay Members' views on CHs to the relevant sections for follow-up. The Secretariat would review the terms of reference of DFMC in a timely manner and arrange for discussion of matters relating to CHs at the suitable committee.

III. Date of next meeting

- 45. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on 6 March 2024 (Wednesday).
- 46. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat
February 2024